



Happy
Holidays!

2017 November/December

- Thank you!
- Happy Tales- Morgan and Pearl
- Gene Bourque
- Westie Lung Disease
- Spot the Westie

Published 11/1/2017
by Marlene Armfield



WRN Board Members

Gene Bourque
Jan Humphrey Linda Clibon
Hollie Hunter Martha Smith
Sarah Doud

Contact US

P.O. Box 884
Lafayette, CO, 80026
720-360-1212
or visit us @
www.westierescuenetwork.org



westie rescue network



At this season of Thanksgiving, we are thankful to all of those helping Westie Rescue Network: Our board members, volunteers, foster homes, groomers, and Veterinarians!

HOLLIE HUNTER

MARK IANACONE

LINDA CLIBON

BETH HALL

SARAH DOUD

LIVIA HARTGROVE

LORI SEARLES

MARTHA SMITH

North Fork Veterinary Clinic

Plum Creek Veterinary

VENA FLAX

MARCIA CRUMP

DANYA CORBIN

DR. QUINN FLENNIKEN

North Shore Animal Hospital

DR. NORMAN VINCENT

KATHLEEN SPRADLEY

JOHN BOAT

PAULA BURMEISTER

MINNIE BOURQUE

MARY WESTDORP

KAREN NEFF

DR. SALLY TOWNER

MYRA BATES

DIANNE VENO

Erie Animal Hospital

MARK ENGLADE

DALE ECKHARDT

DR. WILLIAM MUSSELWHITE

DR. ERIN WALTERS

PAM THIESFEIDT

LINDA GRAVELLE

MYRA BATES

Mountain Ridge Animal Hospital

BOB GRAVELLE

BONNIE McNAMARA

DR. ROBERT LANDRY

MARION ENGLADE

ANN MEISEL

CINDY LEHMAN

MONTIE LEHMAN

GENE BOURQUE

KAY WOODY

TERRY WHITING

HOPE RAPP

DR. BOB JAMES

GAYLE ROJAS

TINA GEOGHAN

GARY WESTDORP

GARY CHRISTON

DEB SARET

JAN HUMPHREY

Aspen Commons Animal Hospital

ELLEN SIMCO

TED TERROUX

KAREN JOHNSON

DIXIE SUTTON

LEN WARDLAW

CINDY WARDLAW

JOHN CRUMP

LANIA BRYANT

MICHELE WARD

JERI CHRISTON

MARLENE ARMFIELD

Briargate Veterinary Clinic

SHAWNA MILLER



Happy Tales

Morgan



Morgan, our newest adoptee, is lucky enough to be living on a farm! Moke, her new owner, sent some pictures and a few choice descriptions of how she is getting along.

(referring to the photo at the right) . . .Morgan has growled at most trespassing of my legs into her sleeping space. I do not take offense but accept it and notice that I need to adjust my position, as in back off or better yet, move your legs to the other side of the bed (or couch). Know that I am, without complaint, relinquishing a territory I've held for forty-five years.. . .



I know, my dear Morgan, those politicians are indeed boring



She does look rather perky there. Not that a three hour nap inside the Buick on the floor pad had anything to do with it. . .Morgan has confidence taking care of the farm. She has accepted the free-ranging chickens as mobile lawn ornaments and follows behind them expectantly. She is completely at ease in the corrals, and around the outbuildings Wish I had a video of her walking sedately beside me on my little tractor pulling last year's limbs down my little lane. Looking at her, I could only grin. Following me out to the field, milling around as I tethered the white branches with rope, and heading for home as soon as I began driving back to the yard. At bedtime - hers- she is out cold in minutes on my bed.. .she is the ultimate addition to my life and this farm. She is a champ.

~from Moke



More Happy Tales

Pearl



Pearl has really adjusted well to her new forever home. She already has a following in our neighborhood. She greets everyone with her special little grin and a jump and a wag. She may be a little 10 year old but she has a great big, wonderful personality. Most folks think she is a puppy. She is such a joy. Bailey, her brother Westie who is very camera shy is enjoying her company. They love to walk side by side sniffing and rolling in the fall leaves. We are so grateful to everyone at Westie Rescue. Thank you for caring for her and keeping her happy and healthy.

~from Jody



Pearl shares her bed with the cat Sophie....reluctantly.

Gene Bourque, Our President

Gene says "being a volunteer for Weste Rescue Network is a family affair." For sure! Consequently this article is also about Minnie.

Gene and Minnie knew each other while they were in high school- Monterey high school, Lubbock, Texas. They went separate ways and each married someone else. They caught up again many years later in Colorado. At that time Minnie had two (non Westie) dogs, Harley and Doogan. The first time Gene came to her house, those two dogs met him at the door. He knew if he was going to win Minnie's heart he had better get acquainted with her dogs; so he got down on the floor to say "hello" to them. Smart man!

Gene and Minnie were married in 2004. The summer of 2006, after Harley died, they adopted Wilson, their first Westie from WRN. At that time Minnie says she "just wanted to help out," and she started doing a few home visits, helping with transports, and fostering a few dogs for Westie Rescue Network. Gene continued working, but after he retired in 2008, he started helping Minnie with some of her jobs. In 2011 Martha Smith asked Gene to join the board. After Doogan went over the Rainbow Bridge, Gene and Min adopted Clancy (also from WRN) and shortly thereafter moved to Erie, and began to foster Quinn. It was instant love and he stayed with the Bourque family! They are now a two dog Westie family again. 😊 Clancy has taken on the personality of Wilson. During the short time with him, he internalized many of Wilson's traits and is, without a doubt, Gene's Westie! Minnie says "I get the little rebel, Quinn! Clancy and Gene usually awaken first, quite early in the morning, and they have their 'quiet time together' going over Gene's prayer list while seated in their favorite chair. It is adorable and I'm thrilled they have each other. Meanwhile Quinn and I are snoozing away!

Clancy hears when Gene's car approaches and runs to greet him. As Wilson jumped into Gene's arms upon their first meeting, Clancy is forever in Gene's lap and arms."

Gene became President in June 2014, and the first thing he did was visit the folks fostering the Westies before adoption. He put 3,000 miles on his car that year! Gene says, "we're going to run this organization professionally." I think his idea has worked out for all of us.

The most memorable placement for Gene and Minnie was Delta & Heath in 2015, ages 11 and 12. Delta had been very sick with Tularemia (Rabbit Fever), a highly contagious disease, but she came through in true Westie fashion. The adoptive parents lived in Albuquerque; and Gene and Minnie met them half way, in Trinidad, to deliver the pair. Gene said "When you can place two dogs like that in a situation like that -- it is a win-win." Yes!! That is what Westie Rescue is all about! Thank you Gene and Minnie!



Spotlight on Health

Westie Lung Disease



Recently there has been a lot of discussion on various Westie Facebook groups about Westie Lung Disease. There is even a Facebook group dedicated to this: *Westie Lung Disease--IPF in USA (Treatments, Symptoms, Studies, Etc.)*

Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis otherwise known as Westie Lung Disease, to put in simple terms, is a disease which slowly over a period of 12 to 18 months increasingly prevents the lungs from functioning as they should, restricting their movement and therefore their ability to absorb oxygen into the body. What this means is that the lungs have to work harder and harder to take in oxygen that the body desperately needs, compared to healthy lungs. In so doing the heart has to work harder, to get the oxygen around the body putting extra strain on the heart & lungs. The problem is frequently diagnosed at around nine years of age.

The cause of the disease is unknown, however, the injury and its inflammatory reaction is thought to be caused by a combination of allergens in the air, dust, toxins, pollution or infectious organisms. IPF can occur in any dog breed but a genetic component is suspected as the disease disproportionately affects the West Highland White Terrier. Per Dr. Merkel, the expert respiratory specialist veterinarian (from the group mentioned above), "right now we know IPF can happen in any breed, but there are many more Westies than any other breed suggesting that it may have a genetic background and therefore could be reduced with careful and better breeding. Research is ongoing but some sources suggest there are links between the fibrosis, the immune system and allergies."

SYMPTOMS

The signs and symptoms of IPF include shortness of breath, panting, increased respiratory rate, heat intolerance, exercise intolerance, lethargy, decreased appetite, cyanosis (blue tongue), respiratory distress and a non-productive cough. Dogs with IPF tire quickly and get out of breath from activities they once could do with ease such as running, playing or going up and down stairs. These symptoms usually slowly but progressively worsen over months or years. Crackles, breath sounds heard with a stethoscope, are an indicative sign of IPF. Diagnosing IPF is difficult as there are many other diseases of the lung with somewhat similar symptoms, i.e., kennel cough, acute bronchitis, tracheal collapse, allergies, pneumonia as well as heart disease. As a consequence, IPF is probably one of the most misdiagnosed diseases in Westies. IPF is routinely misdiagnosed as chronic bronchitis, however, the treatment of IPF and chronic bronchitis will be the same.

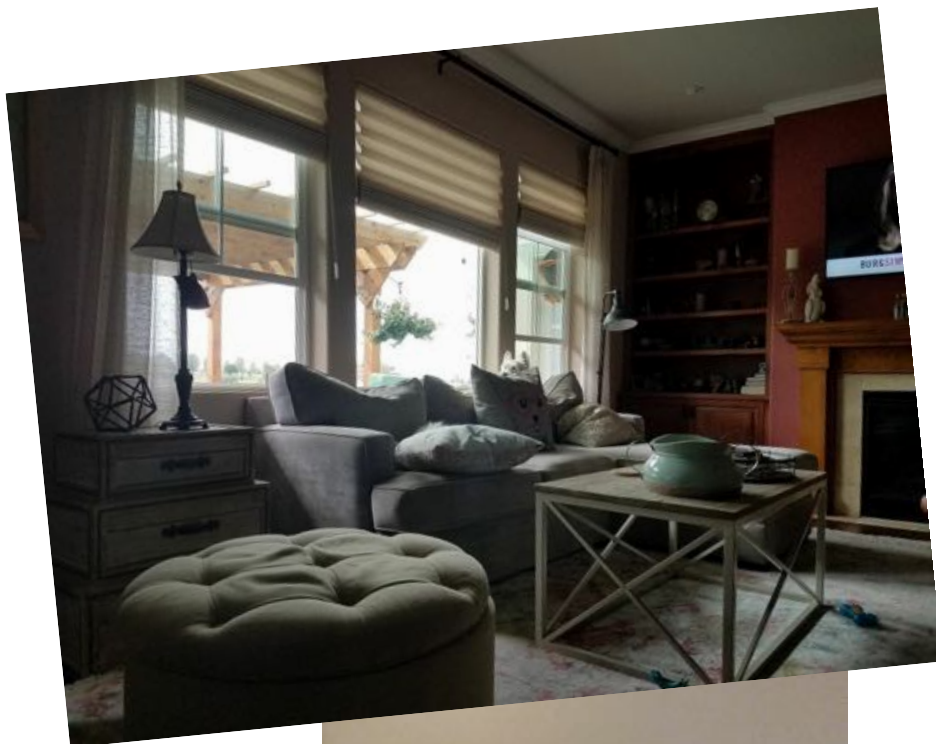
TREATMENT

IPF is a chronic and progressive interstitial lung disease (affecting the tissue and space around the air sacs of the lungs for which there is no cure. Therefore the therapeutic goals are to control the clinical symptoms while maintaining the best quality of life. Treating IPF dogs with a Flovent inhaler and Class IV laser therapy provides the best control of clinical symptoms and optimal quality of life. Class IV laser therapy is emerging as one of the most significant and positive treatment options for this disease. Laser therapy is non-invasive, painless and cost-effective.

For more information go to: the Facebook group *Westie Lung Disease--IPF in USA (Treatments, Symptoms, Studies, Etc.)* and ask to join. You will have to explain your reason for wanting to join. If you think your dog might have this disease, this is a good place to start.



Spot the Westie



From the Editor

Send your Spot the Westie photos, and
any other pictures, stories, and ideas to

marmfield@aol.com



November

Adopt a Senior Pet Month

Think you can't teach an old dog new tricks? Think again: The ASPCA says many senior dogs actually learn faster because of their calm demeanor and prior interaction with people. Quite a few of our adopters can attest to that!

Shopping at
Amazon Gives
You And WRN
The Best
Rewards

When You Shop On
Amazon They Will Donate
to WRN On Your Behalf



And it is all at NO COST TO
YOU. With every purchase
you make, Amazon will
donate 0.5 percent of Your
Purchases to WRN



2018 Calendars and stickers are now available for purchase.

Go to the website: Westierescuenetwork.org. Click Fundraising, then calendars or stickers to order.

Details on how to do this in
July/August 2017 newsletter
available on website

Find Us On

facebook

